

Item 9, Active Travel Committee agenda 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Proposal to write to Minister for Transport to encourage legislation opposing pavement parking

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Mr Mark Harper  
Department for Transport

Pavement parking: we need action now

Dear Mark Harper

We are very concerned with the issue of pavement parking, and the impact that it continues to have. It was encouraging to see in November 2020 the Government say they wanted to find a solution to the problem of pavement parking in England.

However, it's been two and a half years and action has stalled.

Please make sure that pavement parking becomes a top priority for the Government and is included in the programme of legislation in the upcoming King's Speech.

Your department's review of pavement parking in 2020 clearly set out how parking on pavements is dangerous for all pedestrians. Particularly vulnerable people such as the elderly, disabled, parents with young children and those with sight loss, whom all are at risk when forced into the road to pass pavement parked vehicles.

Local councillors are often contacted and asked what can be done about pavement parking and the answer is very little without parliamentary action.

For example research for the Guide Dogs for the blind charity shows that 83% of its service users find pavement parking the biggest obstacle to getting out and about independently.

Also in a 2018 YouGov poll 65% of drivers admitted to parking on the pavement.

With Active Travel being so strongly promoted by government isn't it logical for laws to also support that goal?

That's why we need urgent action to introduce a clear, easily understood law to make our pavements safe for everyone.

Yours xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx